

In the Claims

Please amend the following claims:

1 29. (amended) A longitudinally flexible stent, comprising:

a plurality of interconnected cylindrical elements aligned along a stent longitudinal axis, each cylindrical element having a shape configured to enable the cylindrical element to expand with the inflation of an expandable member disposed therein;

C₁ wherein each of the cylindrical elements has a diameter and a length, the length of each cylindrical element being less than the diameter of the cylindrical element upon inflation of the expandable member; and

the cylindrical elements having a length less than 2.5 mm.

12 30. (amended) A balloon expandable longitudinally flexible stent, comprising:

a stent pattern having a plurality of single undulating portions extending circumferentially about a longitudinal axis;

C₂ each single undulating portion being formed individually and thereafter being connected together along the longitudinal axis;

at least one of the single undulating portions having a length and a diameter, the length being less than the diameter upon inflation of the balloon;

the single undulating portions having a length less than 2.5 mm; and

wherein there is no appreciable shortening of the stent upon inflation of the balloon.

15 43.

(amended) A longitudinally flexible stent, comprising:

a stent pattern having a plurality of single undulating portions extending circumferentially about a longitudinal axis, the single undulating portions being connected together along the longitudinal axis;

the single undulating portions having a length less than 2.5 mm;

the plurality of single undulating portions having open ends and closed ends, at least one of the open ends being no wider than one of the closed ends when the stent is mounted on an expandable member before expansion.